

Message

From: Shiffman, Cari [Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/14/2021 9:34:20 PM
To: Starfield, Lawrence [Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Notes DRA+DAA Business Operations

I believe they were referring to before the OIG opens a formal investigation, they may do some preliminary engagement with the program offices and then decide whether or not to proceed.

Thanks,

Cari Shiffman, Chief of Staff
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From: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 4:30 PM
To: Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Notes DRA+DAA Business Operations

Thanks, Cari. This is very helpful. Can you give me more information on the OIG topic – what are the “engagements” you reference?

Larry

From: Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:55 PM
To: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Subject: Notes DRA+DAA Business Operations

- **Transition Updates** – Wes Carpenter, AO/IO
 - Final agency review Teams Meetings today
 - Matt Fritz at 2 pm
 - PFAS at 4 pm
 - Creating new SharePoint Site - with point papers for transition
- **DCRO Updates** – JuanCarlos Hunt, OCR; Kevin Bailey, OCR; Deb Jordan, Region 9
 - EEO Action Plans (reminder to the NPMs that haven't sent drafts yet) - Final Plans due on February 28
 - Will be sending a summary on best practices next week
 - EO may be rescinding and will then reassess training
 - SEPMs - want to fill any vacant positions by Feb. 28, will provide training for SEPMs
 - Want to increase EEO counselor cadre (goal of 20-25) - solicitation will be sent out - 2 year commitment
 - Increase use of Schedule A for persons with disabilities - report is currently under review with OGC
 - Greater engagement with PMOs with NPMs - planning monthly conversations in FY21
 - R5 - did internal campaign to updating employee express with regard to disabilities - increased by 3%. What is the approach for identifying EEO counselors?
 - Will need to apply. Try to avoid supervisors and managers in that role.
 - Soliciting by February 1 recommendations on future barrier analyses
- **Office of Policy Updates** – Helena Wooden-Aquilar, OP
 - Thank you for contributions to EJ progress report (reach out to Matt Tejada if you have any questions)

- Thank you for feedback on the opportunity zone mapping tool (it has been made public)
- **OHS Updates**
 - Monitoring cyber event intrusion
 - Seat on national join terrorism taskforce
 - In coordination with FBI and DHS - Unclassified, but law enforcement sensitive (do not share outside Federal government)
 - Dramatic increase in reports of threats of domestic terrorists who are emboldened by attack on Capitol
 - Chatter both in DC and in state capitol
 - Proud Boys - consider by FBI to be a domestic extremist group (in DC, Federal, State, local buildings, and courthouse around the country) - no direct specific threat to EPA facilities, but general threats to any Federal buildings
 - Concerned about splinter groups
 - No direct threats of WMD (where EPA would be involved in cleanup/response)
 - Foreign actors may be using this chaotic times to take action
 - Local fusion centers to have intelligence directly about local threats
 - Sending out a SitRep
 - Distinction between 1st amendment activity and criminal activity
- **OCFO Updates** - David Bloom, OCFO
 - Rescission that President is putting together (has not been sent to Congress) - \$128M (? - not sure I got this number right) for EPA - 5 areas
 - \$200M ORD SNT funds
 - Eliminate Environmental Education - saved 2 weeks of pay (will then look for carryover)
 - Eliminate EJ - saved 2 weeks of pay (will then look for carryover)
 - Cut \$80M DERA
 - Cut \$500M to cat grants
 - Would not be able to use these funds for 45 days, but President-elect Biden can pull back once sworn in
 - Operating Plan
 - Hiring plans currently under review
 - 1% COLA (no specific locality pay)
 - Agency has to contribute another 1% for benefits in this upcoming cycle
 - Plan to get plans up within 45 days
 - May be targeting travels as a source
 - OIG
 - Before formal engagement, due research in reaching out to offices
 - You have to provide the OIG with the information - can have a conversation about what information you would be providing (make sure they copy the senior management)
 - February - agency senior leadership meeting - 2 hour session (rather than half day) - focus on long term priority goals
- **Wrap Up/Adjourn** – Robin Richardson, OCIR
 - Questions on FR
 - OP is current gatekeeper for FR
 - How to process items that don't make it to publication - Helena is working with Bill Nickerson to put together a list of things that don't cross the finish line

Thanks,

Cari Shiffman, Chief of Staff
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